DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 411 625 EC 305 815

AUTHOR Ma, Vaunne; Gilmore, Dana Scott
TITLE National Day and Employment Service Trends in MR/DD Agencies.
INSTITUTION Children's Hospital, Boston, MA. Inst. for Community Inclusion.
SPONS AGENCY Administration on Developmental Disabilities (DHHS), Washington, D.C.
PUB DATE 1997-07-00
NOTE 3p.
CONTRACT 90DN0032
PUB TYPE Collected Works - Serials (022) -- Reports - Research (143)
JOURNAL CIT Research To Practice; July 1997;
EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Adults; *Employment Services; Financial Support; *Job Placement; *Mental Retardation; National Surveys; *Sheltered Workshops; *State Agencies; *Supported Employment

ABSTRACT

This fact sheet reports data from a national survey of state mental retardation/developmental disabilities (MR/DD) agencies. The survey was designed to investigate the distribution of people supported by state MR/DD agencies in integrated versus facility-based day and employment services and the levels of funding. Results indicate that while the number of people served in integrated settings increased throughout FY 1988-93, the number of people served in facility-based settings remained the same. Data appear to show a decrease in facility-based services over time, however, this decrease exists only in the overall distribution of services, not in the amount of services. The findings suggest that when integrated services are provided, they are provided in addition to existing facility-based services, rather than in place of facility-based services. Findings also indicate that for 23 states reporting on funding across the 3 years: (1) total funding for day and employment services has increased from $1.1 billion in 1988 to $1.6 billion in 1993; (2) there has been an increase in the distribution of funds allocated to integrated employment, from 12 percent in 1988 to 17 percent in 1993; and (3) most funding is still allocated to facility-based settings (83 percent in 1993). Graphs illustrate the data findings. (CR)

**********
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
**********

ED 411 625

Research → Practice

Institute for Community Inclusion
• The University Affiliated Program at Children's Hospital & the University of Massachusetts at Boston
• The Center on Promoting Employment (RRTC)

July, 1997

# National Day and Employment Service Trends in MR/DD Agencies

By Vaunne Ma and Dana Scott Gilmore

## Introduction

There is continuing concern about the effectiveness of day and employment services in supporting community employment for people with disabilities. These services are funded by several sources, including state mental retardation or developmental disability (MR/DD) agencies and the federally supported Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) system. This brief report will report on the distribution of people supported by state MR/DD agencies in integrated versus facility-based day and employment services and their levels of funding.

The data for this fact sheet were collected through a national survey of state MR/DD agencies funded by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities. Since 1988, data on elements of day and employment services have been compiled. These items include funding/administrative mechanisms, policy regarding future expansion of integrated employment, use of Title XIX waiver funds and information on new referrals and waiting lists. The data here represent the core elements of the survey related to the settings that services are received. *Integrated settings* include competitive employment and supported employment (ongoing job-related supports) while *facility-based settings* include both work programs (Sheltered Workshops and Work Activity programs) and non-work programs (Day Activity and Day Habilitation programs).

### Related ICI Products

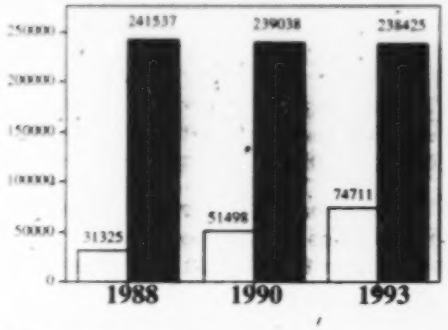
(for copies please contact us at the number(s) on the reverse)

*Work Status Trends For People With Mental Retardation, Research To Practice (2 pp., March, 1997)*

*Quality Employment Services: Will You Know It When You See It? The Institute Brief (10 pp., May, 1997)*

## Results

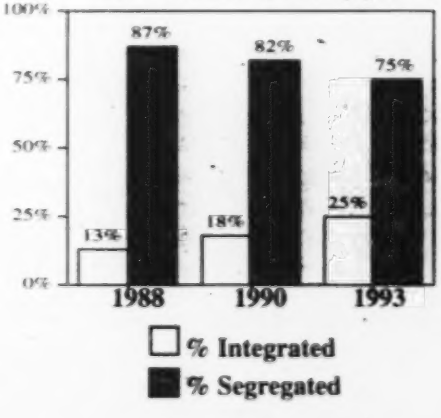
**Total served by setting by year**




During FY1988-1993:

- *Number* of people served in facility-based settings remained relatively constant (approximately 240,000).
- *Number* of people served in integrated settings increased from approximately 31,000 to approximately 75,000.

**Service distribution by year**



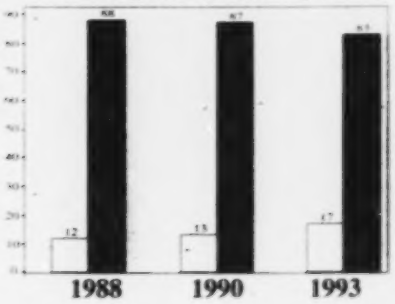

- *Percent* of individuals in facility-based services decreased by 12% (from 87 to 75).
- *Percent* of individuals in integrated services increased by 12% (from 13 to 25).

Ed 305815



BEST COPY AVAILABLE

**Funding distribution by year**




- Total funding for Day and Employment services has increased from 1.1 billion dollars in 1988 to 1.6 billion dollars in 1993.
- There has been an increase in the distribution of funds allocated to integrated employment, from 12% in 1988 to 17% in 1993.
- Most funding is still allocated to facility-based settings, 83% in 1993.

## Discussion

While the number of people served in integrated settings increased throughout FY1988-FY1993, the number of people served in facility-based settings remained the same. As a result, the service distribution graph (figure 2) appears to show a decrease in facility-based services over time, but this decrease exists only in the overall distribution of services, not in the amount of services. This finding suggests that when integrated services are provided, they are provided *in addition* to existing facility-based services, rather than *in place* of facility-based services. Sustaining growth in integrated employment services requires a reallocation of scarce resources from facility-based services to community employment. These findings are consistent with those found in the report *Beyond the Workshop: National Perspectives on Integrated Employment*[1].

For 23 states that reported on funding across the 3 years, there was a significant increase in funding for integrated services but no significant change in funding for facility-based services. Even so, facility-based employment is given priority in funding allocations, as noted in total spending by setting. Ninety-three percent of federal and 83% of state funds are distributed to facility-based employment[2]. Although state agencies assign twice as much funding to integrated employment compared to federal agencies, the majority of funding is still received by facility-based services.

Achieving greater access to employment and economic independence requires attention to change at individual, community, and systems levels. In a recent book, Kiernan and Schalock[3] offered strategies to promote integrated employment at each level. These include assuring individual choice of employment outcomes and resources (through mechanisms such as Person-Centered Planning and consumer-directed funding), requiring that all student transition plans include integrated employment, and resolving state and federal policies which conflict with employment outcomes by removing limitations on use of Medicaid monies for integrated employment.

## References

[1] *McGaughey, M.J., Kiernan, W.E., Gilmore, D.S., McNally, L.C., Keith, G.R. (1994). Beyond the Workshop: National Perspectives on Integrated Employment: Boston: Institute for Community Inclusion, Children's Hospital.*

[2] *Gilmore, D.S., Butterworth, J., Kiernan, W.E., McNally, L.C. (In press). National Perspectives On Integrated Employment: State MR/DD Agency Trends. Boston: Institute for Community Inclusion, Children's Hospital.*

[3] *Kiernan, W.E., and Schalock, R.L. (Eds.) (1997). Integrated Employment: Current Status and Future Directions. Washington, D.C.: American Association on Mental Retardation.*

This document was supported, in part by a cooperative agreement, No. 90DN0032, from the Administration on Developmental Disabilities, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Grantees undertaking projects under government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not, therefore, necessarily represent official Administration on Developmental Disabilities policy. For a publications brochure, contact: Institute for Community Inclusion, Children's Hospital, 300 Longwood Ave., Boston, MA 02115. (617)355-6506 voice; (617)355-6956 TTY; ICI@a1.tch.harvard.edu email.